The details of grants released to Government of Karnataka under the erstwhile Scheme of Grants for Creation of Sports Infrastrcuture during the last five years is as under:

(Rs. in lakhs)

2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		2005-06		2006-07	
Amount released	No. of Projects	Amount released	No. of Projects	Amount released	No. of Projects	Amount released	No. of Projects	Amount released	No. of Projects
82.20	14	58.7	8	101.3	9	0.00	0	42.60	2

During the current financial year 2007-08, no funds have been provided under the erstwhile Sports Infrastructure Scheme.

The Central Government through the Sports Authority of India has also created the following sports infrastructure during the last five years:

(i) Providing/laying of synthetic hockey surface at Bangalore;

(ii) Construction of 100-bedded Girls Hostel at Bangalore; and

(iii) Construction of Hostel building at Medikari.

With a view to addressing the huge gap in the availability of sports infrastructure, especially at the grassroots level, the Ministry have received the in-principle approval of the Planning Commission to launch a nation-wide programme entitled 'Panchayat Yuva Krida Aur Khel Abhiyan', which aims at providing all village and intermediate panchayats with basic sports infrastructure in a phased manner over a period of 10 years.

Opening of MEA offices

469. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to open MEA offices in Chennai and other cities in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the status of opening of such an Office in Orissa to meet the needs of the people of this State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) and (b) Branch Secretariates of the Ministry are functioning in Kolkata, Hyderabad and Chennai. There is a proposal to open an office in Guwahati soon.

(c) There is no proposal to open such an office in Orissa, at present.

Setting up of a task force to assist negotiations

470. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up a three-member task force so that India adopts a uniform, informed position on issues like nuclear non-proliferation, missile defence and missile materials;

(b) whether this task force would work to close consultation with his Ministry and would give its recommendations to Foreign Secretary; and

(c) if so, to what extent setting up of this task force would be helpful in meeting the complex negotiations on the 123 Agreement with the US on the right to reprocess spent fuel?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) A task force was set up by Ministry of External Affairs to review India's existing position on disarmament and non-proliferation issues and to make recommendations in the light of India's status as a nuclear-weapon state, India's security interests, present international realities and possible developments. The task force has submitted its Report to Foreign Secretary.

(c) The task force was not mandated to deal with the issues related to the 123 Agreement with the United States.

Chinese intrusion in India

471. SHRI NABAM REBIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that China refuses to recognize the Mac Mohan Line as the border between India and China;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a number of Chinese intrusions have been taking place particularly in the State of the Arunachal Pradesh; and

(c) if so, the details of such intrusions and the initiatives taken by Government to resovle the same?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) There is no commonly delineated Line of Actual Control (LAC) between India and China. From time to time, on account of differences in the perception of the LAC, situations have arisen on the gound that could have been avoided if we had a common perception of the LAC. Government regularly take up such perceived violations along the LAC with the Chinese side through established mechanisms including the Joint Working Group, the Expert Group, border personnel meetings, flag meetings and normal diplomatic channels.

Both sides have also agreed to an early clarification of the LAC. The Joint Declaration issued during the visit of Chinese President to India in November last year stated, "It was agreed to complete the process of exchanging maps indicating their respective perceptions of the entire alignment of the LAC on the basis of already agreed parameters as soon as possible."

Deputation to foreign countries

472. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Government employees posted on deputation to foreign countries in the Indian embassies;

(b) the norms for such selection; and

(c) whether Government are giving adequate representation to employees and the officers belonging to SC, ST and minority?